



Long Beach Police Department

Crime Watch News

Crime Prevention Unit • 100 Long Beach Blvd • Long Beach, CA 90802

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Community Relations Division

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION AND WEAPONLESS DEFENSE DEMONSTRATION

It's once again time for the citywide Community Crime Prevention meeting. This month's meeting will be held on

Wednesday, February 19, 2003, at 7:00 p.m.

Long Beach Water Department
1800 East Wardlow Road

Guest Speakers:

Sergeant Devin Stribich, Internal Affairs
Officer Larry Jones, Police Academy
Officer James Schlobohm, Police Academy

The Survey Results Are In For Our Monthly Crime Prevention Meeting!



At our November "Monthly Crime Prevention Meeting," we asked the attendees to complete a survey regarding the future of the monthly meetings. All of our respondents said that they enjoyed last year's monthly topics. It seemed that most enjoyed the more interactive presentations, especially, that night's presentation on the Sikh Religion. We will do our best in the future to continue to provide more interactive presentations for you to enjoy.

We asked for suggestions for a new name for the monthly meeting. The best answer was a simple one: **"Community Crime Prevention Meeting."** What better way to let the public know that the meeting is open to everyone!

The majority of our respondents asked us to keep the meeting date, time and location the same. Therefore, it is our intent to remain at our current location, the Water Department Headquarters Building, 1800 E. Wardlow Road. The parking problem should be handled for February! Meetings will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of each month, except December, at 7:00 p.m.

Our February topics, "Internal Affairs Division" and "Weaponless Defense Demonstration" were just two ideas for additional meeting topics provided by our respondents. We're listening! We want you to enjoy these informative meetings and we encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors and coworkers!

See you on February 19th!

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MOTORIZED SCOOTERS

By Corporal Harry Erickson
LBPd— Community Relations Division

Motorized scooters can be a fun and effective form of transportation and recreation. The California Legislature recognizes the need to reduce traffic congestion, and identified motorized scooters as one way to accomplish this. Gas powered scooters are low emission, and therefore, better for the environment than automobiles. Electric scooters are quiet and produce no air pollution. It is important to remember that motorized scooters are self propelled, and must be handled responsibly. If you intend to purchase a motorized scooter, you must be aware and abide by the laws regarding them. In addition, there are certain things you can do to make your time on a scooter safer. This article is intended to give you an overview of the laws and safety concerns regarding motorized scooters.



APPLICABLE LAWS

The operation of motorized scooters is governed by Local and State Laws. The California Vehicle Code (CVC) contains laws which apply to motorized scooters. The Vehicle Code sections which apply to motorized scooters are 407.5 and 21220 - 21240. Motorized scooters are not considered "motor vehicles" as defined in the Vehicle Code, however, there are age restrictions and other rules you must follow when operating one.

SAFE SCOOTING

- **Safety Equipment** - In addition to wearing a required helmet, it is wise to wear other protective gear such as gloves, eye protection and knee, wrist and elbow pads, etc.

- **Mechanical Check** - Conduct a mechanical inspection of your scooter before you ride. Check all nuts and bolts to make sure they are tight. Make sure the steering moves freely. Check your brakes. Make sure the engine shuts off when the brakes are applied.
- **Know Your Scooter** - Read the instruction manual and become familiar with your scooter's controls. Follow all safety warnings provided with your scooter.
- **Ride Defensively** - If you ride a scooter on a public street, remember that you share the road with automobiles. It is easier for you to see them than for them to see you. Do not dart in and out of traffic. Use bicycle lanes if they are available. If you need to make a left turn, you are required by law to get off your scooter and walk it across the street in the crosswalk. Assume that other drivers do not see you, and anticipate others moves to avoid problems. Don't be in too much of a hurry. Scooters are not toys, but a mode of transportation which must be used by responsible mature people.

NOISE COMPLAINTS

The Vehicle Code currently has no specific laws regarding noise restrictions on motorized scooters. Section 415 of the Penal Code addresses noise disturbances in general. The City of Long Beach and most other cities have local ordinances regarding noise disturbances as well.

If the noise from a motorized scooter is such that it is disturbing the peace, the police may be called and the violator could receive a citation. The criteria used is whether the noise would disturb a "person of normal sensitivity." A "private person's" arrest would be necessary for the police to take action.

When operating motorized scooters, be mindful of others in regards to noise. If you operate a scooter which has a modified exhaust system, you could be in violation.



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Is there a minimum age to ride a motorized scooter?
Yes, you must be at least 16 years old.
- Do I need a helmet?
Yes, the helmet must be properly fitted and fastened.
- Do I need a drivers license?
No, since a motorized scooter is not considered a "motor vehicle," a drivers license is not required.
- Do I have to stop at stop signs and red lights?
Yes, anyone riding a scooter on a public road must follow all the rules of the road. You are also prohibited from operating a scooter while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Can a friend ride with me?
No, only one person at a time.
- If I ride at night, do I need lights? *Yes, you must have a white headlight, red rear reflector and yellow side reflectors.*
- Can I ride on the sidewalk?
No, only to enter or leave a driveway.
- Is there a speed limit?
Yes, not to exceed 15 MPH.
- What about brakes?
You must have a working brake, which disengages the motor when applied.



Tony Valdez
Fox 11 News
Guest Co-Narrator

**LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
35th Annual Police Awards Luncheon
Tuesday, March 4, 2003**



Christine Devine
Fox 11 News
Guest Co-Narrator

On Tuesday, March 4, 2003, the 35th Annual Police Awards Luncheon will be held at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. This luncheon publicly honors those brave police employees and citizens who have distinguished themselves by aiding their fellow men and women, often at great risk to their own personal safety.

Tickets are available in the Community Relations Division, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and may be purchased for \$30 each or \$300 for a table of 10. Organizations interested in sponsoring a table must submit payment by [Friday, February 7, 2003](#), to be acknowledged in the awards commemorative program. The police department is anticipating a full house, so please respond promptly. Make your check payable to the City of Long Beach.

For further information, call the Community Relations Division at (562) 570-7215.

**LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL POLICE AWARDS LUNCHEON**

Please complete information, indicating the number of tickets requested and the total amount enclosed. Return this portion to the:

Long Beach Police Department
Attention: Community Relations Division/Awards Luncheon
100 Long Beach Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

_____ OF TICKETS @ \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Long Beach Convention &
Entertainment Center
Grand Ballroom

300 E. Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach

11:15 a.m. ~ Reception
Noon ~ Luncheon/Award
Presentations

Purchase tickets
in person at the
Community Relations Office
333 W. Broadway, Ste. 100

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
\$30.00 per ticket

or

Mail to:
Long Beach Police Department
100 Long Beach Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802
Attn: Community Relations
Division/Awards Luncheon

Make checks payable to:
City of Long Beach

For questions, call
(562) 570-7215



Welcome Lisa Massacani, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Police Services Assistant Lisa Massacani is the new Neighborhood Watch Program Coordinator for the Long Beach Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit. Born and raised in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Lisa moved to California in 1989. Some of you may have met her in her prior position as a clerk for the Long Beach Public Library's Brewitt Branch Library. Lisa worked with Library Services for twelve years and joined us this past June. She has been continuing the reorganization efforts that PSA Adriana Torres began last year. Lisa will be completing her Associate of Arts degree in June with a Paralegal Certificate from Coastline College. She has brought a broad array of experience to her

new position and we are very happy to have her on our team. Lisa has been attending as many Neighborhood Watch meetings as possible, so when you see her, please give her a good Long Beach community welcome!

Note: You have not lost Adriana Torres. She is now an Assistant Coordinator for the Neighborhood Watch Program and our unit's Program Scheduling Coordinator.

**Long Beach Police Department
Community Relations Division
400 West Broadway
Long Beach, CA 90802**